March 30, 1964

MEMORANDUM

TO : Mr. Rankin

FROM : S. A. Stern

SUBJECT: Second Interview with SAIC Bouck, Chief of Protective Research Section

On Thursday, March 26, 1964 I met with SAIC Bouck and Inspector Kelley at PRS offices from 10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. We covered the following:

Bouck joined the Secret Service in 1939 immediately upon graduation from college and has served in the Secret Service ever since. He was originally assigned to the Washington, D.C. field office; was then Secret Service Personnel Officer; from 1952 to 1957 he was in charge of all Treasury law enforcement training, including Secret Service training; in June, 1957 he became head of PRS.

Mr. Bouck has prepared an organization chart of PRS which he will have available when he testifies before the Commission. There are five Special Agents who evaluate and process leads, but their decisions as to whether or not to investigate a case are reviewed by Bouck or his assistant, Chester Miller.

Investigations are always conducted of persons who call at White House gates, where they are interviewed by Secret Service Agents. Investigations are also always conducted with respect to subjects called to the attention of PRS by other agencies. Judgment is exercised with respect to leads developed through the White House mail room and White House telephone operators, which represent the great bulk of PRS leads. The White House staff is instructed to refer to PRS any communications that are in any way threatening, derogatory, obscene, or unusually persistent. PRS has written criteria for the use of its own employees in evaluating leads from the White House mail room and also has written criteria for all Secret Service Agents on unusual gate visitors. Leads are also developed in the field by local Secret Service offices on information received from citizens and from local law enforcement agencies. No written criteria exist to determine whether such leads should be pursued, but all Secret Service agents are carefully trained in the PRS standards in the course of training programs. All Treasury

law enforcement officials are similarly advised in the course of Treasury Law Enforcement Training Programs and periodic formal Treasury law enforcement coordinating meetings.

PRS is also quite careful not to interfere with the rights of citizens to communicate with the President and to complain of grievances. Frequently, Rouck or Miller determine, or approve a determination, that although a communication warrants opening a file on the subject, no investigation is yet warranted. Instead, the file is watched to see if further signs develop of potential danger. In the past two years there have been 115 instances in which files have been set up for residents of Texas but no investigation has been initiated. Mr. Rouck is preparing summaries of a sample of these 115 cases for the Commission. By contrast, in this same time period, some 30 - 40 cases were investigated involving residents of Texas. PRS has prepared summaries of all of these cases, covering events up to November 22, 1963. I suggested that these be revised to show briefly the actions taken since that date, so that the Commission will not get an incorrect impression as to PRS practices.

Rouck will put together a memorandum which sets out statistics on all PRS cases during the past two years, and on all cases involving Texas residents, with attached summaries of illustrative cases.

We talked again about PRS' understanding with other federal agencies as to the kind of information PRS desired. Rouck has prepared a list of items of information about Oswald which he believes the FBI to have had before November 22. He is firmer than ever that this information clearly indicates enough of a threat to the President to have warranted the FBI's advising PRS. Indeed, Rouck now says that the letter to Connally alone, in which Oswald says that he will use all means to right the injustice that had been done him, was sufficient reason for Oswald to have been called to the attention of PRS.

(21)